



Southeast News

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

VOLUME 17

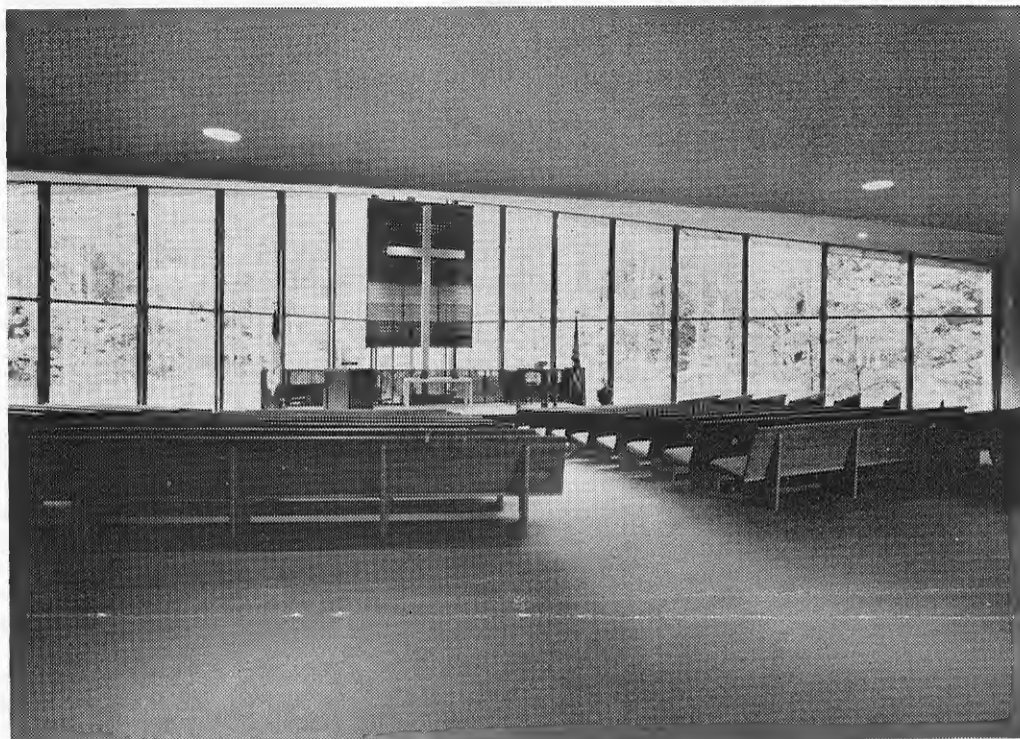
APRIL 1969

NUMBER 6

Southeast Conference Annual Meeting Issue

THEME:

Leadership
In The
Local Church



Central Congregational Church, Atlanta — Site Of Annual Meeting

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING—APRIL 26-27



THE REV. OLIN E. SHEPPARD
Moderator



THE REV. WILLIAM J. ANDES
Conference Minister



THE REV. HOMER C. McEWEN
Moderator-Elect

Board Of Directors And Executive Committee Report

The qualifying "Crisis in the Nation" projects within the bounds of Southeast Conference are: North Nashville, Carver Homes in Atlanta (First Church project), and project of Plymouth Church, Charleston.

The following committees for 1968-1969 were elected:

NOMINATING: Mrs. Edward Brown, Arthur Wallace, Fred D. Powell, Mrs. Elmyra Hall, John S. Fandrich.

FINANCE: H. Paul Beaird, W. P. Ingram, Harold Johnson, Henry Brown, Hubert Richter, Harold Thomas, W. J. Andes, and Olin Sheppard (ex-officio).

PROGRAM: Olin E. Sheppard, W. J. Andes, Dora C. Brackin, Homer C. McEwen, William R. Green, Frederick A. Meyer.

BUSINESS: The Executive Committee.

PLACE: John L. Martin, Mrs. A. D. Harry, G. Franklin Lewis, Ralph D. Worley, Jesse H. Dollar.

RESOLUTIONS: David L. Beebe, Herschel Franks, Clyde Wilhelm, Matthew Dawson, Mrs. E. L. Askren Jr.

CREDENTIALS: R. G. Obrecht, George C. Hewson, Jesse H. Dollar, John T. Enwright.

MEMORIAL: A. R. Van Cleave.

MINISTERS' CONVOCATION COMMITTEE: (Appointed by ministers): David L. Beebe, John J. Roemer, Andrew L. Cooper, Allen H. Hollis, Edward Brown.

Thanks were extended to our national leaders, especially to the Rev. Horace S. Sills and to Dr. Paul Deitz of the Board for Homeland Ministries for their helpfulness in many ways. Mr. Sills is now Conference Minister of Penn West Conference and Dr. Deitz has retired.

The Board of Directors and the Executive Committee spent much time in discussing the needs of the Conference. One urgent need was to upgrade both clergy and lay leadership. Of the 127 churches in the Conference, 93 have less than 100 members. Most of our churches are, therefore, unable to hire full-time leadership. This also means the financial condition of the Conference is not adequate.

The moderators of the associations, designated by the Board as a Realignment Committee, met in Wadley, Alabama, June 25-26, 1968, and proposed that the Conference be divided into

three Associations — Georgia - South Carolina, Alabama - Tennessee, South Alabama — and several Program Fellowship Districts (or areas) within each Association. Each Association discussed the proposal and Executive Committees of the nine Associations are now meeting to draw up By-Laws or other proposals for consideration at future meetings of the Associations.

Dr. Joseph H. Evans, secretary of the United Church of Christ, was invited to represent the Executive Council of the United Church of Christ at the Annual Conference.

Finances were reviewed at the two Executive and Board meetings. The churches paid to the Conference approximately \$48,000 in O. C. W. M. funds. The need was for \$68,000, resulting in a deficit of \$20,000. Thanks were extended to the Division of Christian Education of the Board for Homeland Ministries for the \$4,000 per year for two years. The Division could not continue this grant for 1969. Thanks were extended to the Division of Church Extension for a grant of \$5,000 for 1969 to help offset the \$20,000 deficit. \$15,000 still needs to be found to offset the deficit in 1969.

After a consultation with several of our national leaders in January, the Board, looking at our financial situation in February, decided not to seek a third staff person at this time.

Fred D. Powell was appointed to promote SOUTHEAST NEWS. The subscription price was set at \$1.00.

Plans for a "Development Fund" were proposed by Harold Thomas, treasurer, and these plans were referred to the Finance Committee for consideration.

Churches were urged to give 1%-3% of their 1969 budgets for the "Crisis in the Nation" appeal.

Conference personnel have been instrumental in setting up the Board of Directors for Dorchester Center, McIntosh, Georgia.

Commendations were given to the Conference Minister and to the Minister of Christian Education for their fine work, and we pray that they stay with us for a long time.

An invitation was extended to the Stewardship Council to move their regional offices in Atlanta to the house where the offices of the Southeast Conference are located, at 2684 Clairmont Road, Atlanta, Ga. This house is located on the property of Central Congregational Church. Rev. Karlton C. Johnson and his secretary, Mrs. Carl

Report Of Commission On Christian Education And Youth Work

"The Church's Educational Ministry in a New Time", the theme of the National Conference on Christian Education last August, is indicative of the scope of concerns faced this past year by the Commission on Christian Education and Youth Work. The "new time" requires re-thinking of methods, ecumenical relationships, and leadership strategies.

To help us in our task, four people who had attended the National Conference on Christian Education — Mrs. Edward Askren, Mrs. Mahlon Chew, Mr. E. J. Marbury, and Rev. Emilie Pitcock — helped us look particularly at the Youth Ministry aspect of our work. Officers of SEC YOUTH also attended and took an active part in the discussion.

Several efforts have resulted: more frequent meetings of SEC YOUTH officers and advisors; a Youth Consultation with the United Presbyterians; expansion of camp and conference programs to include children of junior age; and increasingly new dimensions of Youth Ministry as demonstrated at the recent Annual Meeting of SEC Youth at Huntsville, Alabama.

The past year has found us working even more closely with the leadership of the United Presbyterian Church in the U. S. A., both in camp and conference and in leadership training. All of the former, including staffing and planning, are being done together. We are supplying some staff members, and hope to recruit other participants in the two Synod Schools: one at Maryville College, Tennessee, and the other at Boggs Academy, Keysville, Georgia. Recently a briefing was held at Camp Calvin for those who will participate in training teachers of children under six.

In an attempt to enlarge our ministry, the Commission approved the employment of Miss Dorothy DeVillars on the SEC staff this summer. Miss DeVillars, a teacher in the Savannah, Georgia, public schools, will work in vacation church schools, in the two

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Henry, moved their offices to the property March 1, 1969.

Olin E. Sheppard, Moderator
Dora C. Brackin,
Recording Secretary

Report Of Commission On Church And Ministry

At a meeting held in the Lanett, Alabama, Church, December 5-6, 1968, a thorough study was done of the ministerial leadership in our Southeast Conference. In addition to Commission members present, Conference Minister William J. Andes and Conference Minister of Christian Education Emilie F. Pitcock were present, along with ten other people who were invited from over the Conference. The Rev. George Nishimoto of our national staff was present to share in counsel for the study and discussion.

After general discussion of our situation, the members were divided into four "buzz" groups for developing specific procedures and recommendations for "In-Service Training" of all the ministers of the Southeast Conference. The four groups and their reports follow.

I. SUB-COMMITTEE ON ORIENTATION

The orientation of new men should include the following eight categories:

1. Professional Relationships (financial arrangements such as annuity and health insurance, as well as the nature of ministerial standing).
2. Our denominational customs, such as the form and nature of baptism.
3. Introduction to United Church of Christ publications, including the manual on ministry.
4. The history and polity of the United Church of Christ.
5. The programs of the United Church of Christ on various levels, including the national structure, the program of the Southeast Conference, the program of the specific association, and the publications available on these levels.

6. The development of an adequate list of mailing addresses of local ministers as well as the provision of these ministers of adequate lists of mailing addresses for regional and national instrumentalities and staff. A beginning point would be the directory in the back of the "desk calendar and planning guide".

7. The development of national and conference dossiers.

8. Recruitment.

II. SUB-COMMITTEE ON CURRICULUM

This group developed a four-year course of study for continuing education with orientation courses for the

Report Of Commission On Church Extension

The Commission report makes no effort to detail the individual churches that have been aided and assisted in the past year. The financial report will reflect this. The Commission has had the problem of deciding where the small amount of money we were allocated could be best spent. After much prayerful consideration there were some deletions and some cuts in requests for aid. It is hoped this will be understood and accepted by those involved.

In a report of this nature, it would not be possible to cover each project.

The Church Extension Commission has developed the following 1969 Church Aid Budget in cooperation with the Board for Homeland Ministries:

CHURCH	B. H. M.	S. E. C.	TOTAL
East Alabama Assn.	750.00	250.00	1,000.00
North Alabama Assn.	675.00	225.00	900.00
Atlanta, Bonanza	5,850.00	1,950.00	7,800.00
Atlanta, Urban Trg. Org.	1,500.00	500.00	2,000.00
Huntsville, United	1,650.00	550.00	2,200.00
Montgomery, United	3,825.00	1,275.00	5,100.00
Nashville, Brookmeade	4,500.00	1,500.00	6,000.00
Nashville, Howard	3,750.00	1,250.00	5,000.00
Robbins Parish	3,112.50	1,037.50	4,150.00
Sweetwater, First	2,175.00	725.00	2,900.00
Unassigned	152.50	500.00	
TOTALS	27,940.00	9,762.50	37,702.50
(Southeast Conference Aid Only)			
Columbus (Georgia), First		600.00	
Tallassee (Alabama), Mt. Olive		600.00	
Brantley (Alabama), Liberty		100.00	
		11,062.50	

Our special thanks should go to the Division of Church Extension of the Board for Homeland Ministries for their continued support of the Conference and of the churches.

Freddie Powell, Acting Chairman

first year and then subjects or courses similar or parallel to a three-year seminary course.

III. SUB-COMMITTEE ON SPECIAL FORMS OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Some of these forms of education are:

1. A traveling library and the exchange of books.
2. Reading courses and correspondence courses.
3. Associational study seminars and ministers' meetings.
4. District leadership training, ministers' meetings and seminars.
5. Personal study advisors (on a One to One basis).
6. Extension courses from colleges and universities.
7. Circulating "minister to ministers".
8. Conference ministers' convocation.

9. The use of the SOUTHEAST NEWS and pastoral letters from the Conference office.

IV. SUB-COMMITTEE ON A SUMMER CONFERENCE PROGRAM

This would be a "Southern Institute of Parish Practice" for specific and intensive study, laboratory practice in the local church, covering a period of about three weeks.

We strongly urge our ministers to take advantage of membership in The Annuity Fund, Ministers' Health Insurance, and the Family Protection Plan sponsored by and made possible by our Southeast Conference.

We are under obligation to the Rev. George Nishimoto for his counsel and financial aid in our continuing education program in Southeast Conference.

— Joe A. French, Chairman

Report Of Commission On Lay Life And Work

At its three meetings — June 9 and September 14-15, 1968, and March 8-9, 1969, the Commission very diligently sought ways and means to serve the laity of the Conference. Of major concern was the need for leadership training and the promotion of fellowship among the churches.

During the summer of 1969 the Commission sponsored area meetings which involved 384 persons in ten regions, and represented 56 churches. The general theme of the meetings was the 1968-69 Emphasis, "The Local Church in God's Mission". In evaluating these programs, the Commission felt that they filled a very definite need. Thus, plans are under way for similar meetings this next summer. Most of them will be held on Sunday, June 22.

In response to expressed needs for additional ways to serve the laity of the Conference, the Commission will sponsor a Lay Theological Weekend Retreat for the North Alabama - Tennessee area on May 2-4, 1969, at Camp Anderson Creek (Presbyterian), near Athens, Alabama. To this pilot project will come concerned lay people who will share their problems and seek to work out their own solutions. If it proves to be successful, we hope such an experience can be offered later to more lay people across the Conference.

Dr. John Casteel, recently retired from the staff of the Council for Lay Life and Work, and Dr. Norman Jackson, Dean of Student Affairs at Eden Theological Seminary and a member of the Council, will be the leaders.

On March 8 and 9, the Commission sponsored a Spring Planning Workshop at Central Church, Atlanta. Twenty lay persons from across the Conference participated. These men and women have accepted the responsibility for planning and promoting the summer area meetings.

Rev. David Jamieson and Mrs. F. C. Lester, staff members of the Council for Lay Life and Work, and Rev. Emilie F. Pitcock of the Conference staff, were the leaders. The theme was "Reconciliation in a Broken World." New study books were available and presented.

The chairman attended the Council for Lay Life and Work meeting in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, January 31-February 2, 1969. At that time the Council reiterated its concern to help provide

leadership training.

Among the concerns of the Commission are a church officers' training workshop. Such an event could be held in areas similar to the summer meetings, utilizing Conference and/or national instrumentality personnel as resource persons. This was proposed as a possibility for winter (January-February) since many churches install new officers in January.

Another possibility discussed was bringing together two key lay persons from each church — again, in areas — to discuss the concerns of the Conference and to learn of the denominational programs and emphases. This might be held in the fall, in September or on Laity Sunday.

Although no specific plans have been made for a fall or winter meeting, the Commission recommends that the newly elected Commission continue to study the foregoing possibilities and (a) implement a program whereby church officers' training can be started in geographic areas, and (b) make plans to hold fall area meetings in September or on Laity Sunday, involving two key lay persons from each local church. It recommends further that each church be responsible for designating two persons to attend these meetings. Their names should be furnished to the Conference office in order that they might receive mailings related to the concerns and major problems of the Conference.

The Commission spent considerable time dealing with the problems of its financing. In the past, the Commission has been financed from funds provided by various lay groups within the Conference. At the time of reorganization several of the former groups put into the Conference substantial sums of money designated for use by the Commission for Lay Life and Work. Because of the various ways of raising money in the former groups, there exists a great deal of frustration. These funds are almost depleted and no method for financing the Commission has been reached.

Therefore, the Commission recommends that at an early date the Conference Board of Directors make a study of the fragmented financing within the Conference, such as scholarships, Lay Life and Work, Youth Ministry, Per Capita, etc., and make recommendations.

The Commission expresses its appreciation to those many persons in the Conference who have assisted in the

Report Of Commission On Institutions And Ministries

This Commission has had no meeting this year, but correspondence and activities have taken place. It appears we are well on the way to providing an answer to the best use of the Dorchester Center, McIntosh, Georgia. Major emphasis is given to local programs, and indigenous leadership.

Our Pleasant Hill (Uplands) Nursing Home and Retirement Village, with the Rev. Wayne Peck, administrative head, is engaged in an expanding program. We suggest that the churches learn more about this institution located on the Cumberland Plateau, and give support whenever possible.

The third item dealt with is the "Congregational Christian Foundation", affiliated with Vanderbilt Divinity School. A letter was sent out to the officers and classes of 1958, 1959, 1960, asking them to approve a proposal we expect to present to the Southeast Conference in April.

This proposed recommendation deals with our future relationship as a Conference to the Congregational Christian Foundation as it is affiliated with Vanderbilt Divinity School.

It must be confessed that the Southeast Conference in this transition period has been so involved in maintaining its own budget that the institutions under our care have not been given the support they need.

— Arnold Slater, Chairman

Report Of The Southern Union College, Inc.

The officers of the Southeast Conference also serve as the Board of Directors of The Southern Union College, Inc., a fund now being set up to assist college students secure an education where financial resources are lacking.

To date, this fund has received \$885.79, but more is expected when the sale of certain property at Southern Union College at Wadley, Alabama, and elsewhere is finished. Money thus far received has come from a limited number of stocks and bonds.

— W. J. Andes,
Executive Secretary

program it has undertaken, and to Mrs. F. C. Lester for her very able leadership and interest in the Conference.

Members of the Commission are: Mrs. Arthur C. Curtright, Mrs. W. W. Hall,

(Cont. on Page 7)

1968 FINANCIAL STATEMENT 1968

Harold H. Thomas, Treasurer

RECEIPTS

Budgeted Receipts:

B. H. M., Div. of Christian Education	\$ 4,000.00	
For Work of Conference (Millard Fuller)	5,000.00	
For Work of Conference in 1969 (Purd E. Deitz)	5,000.00	
Miscellaneous	4,218.57	\$18,218.57

OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION (BASIC & OTHER)

Alabama-Mississippi Association	\$ 2,705.03	
Alabama-Tennessee Association	5,551.78	
Central Alabama Association	623.92	
East Alabama Association	13,495.17	
North Alabama Association	3,069.69	
S. Alabama - N. W. Florida Association	949.93	
Georgia - South Carolina Association	15,228.52	
Tennessee - Kentucky Association	9,000.10	
Other	44.10	\$50,668.24

TOTAL BUDGETED RECEIPTS

\$68,886.81

Unbudgeted Receipts:

B. H. M. (church aid, special projects, etc.)	\$47,164.26
Family Thank Offering	1,007.91
Annie B. Ensminger Trust Fund	583.20
Ministers' Health Insurance Premiums	6,013.00
From Atlanta Federal — for Bonanza Church House	3,520.00
Miscellaneous	6,405.58

TOTAL UNBUDGETED RECEIPTS

\$ 64,693.95

TOTAL RECEIPTS

\$133,580.76

DISBURSEMENTS

Budgeted Disbursements:

Salaries, Annuities, Housing	27,211.03
Office (rent, phone, equipment, insurance)	4,098.24
Supplies, Materials, Postage	2,011.16
SOUTHEAST NEWS	1,476.88
Organization (Board Directors, Commissions, etc.)	1,878.16
Travel (Conference Minister and Minister Chr. Ed.)	6,618.95
CHURCH AID	9,418.51
**NATIONAL BOARDS & AGENCIES	6,630.14
Miscellaneous	3,233.27

TOTAL BUDGETED DISBURSEMENTS

\$62,576.34

Unbudgeted Disbursements:

To Churches, etc., from B. H. M.	\$40,920.26
Family Thank Offering (to National Board)	1,007.91
Travelers Insurance Company (health insurance)	6,386.00
From Atlanta Federal — for Bonanza Church House	3,520.00
Miscellaneous	4,425.54

TOTAL UNBUDGETED DISBURSEMENTS

\$56,259.71

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

\$118,836.05

RECAPITULATION

TOTAL RECEIPTS — 1968	\$133,580.76
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS — 1968	\$118,836.05

\$14,744.71

BEGINNING BANK BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 1968

\$ 5,663.76

BANK BALANCE, JANUARY 1, 1969

\$20,408.47

**\$7,288.87, Apportionment for last 6 months of 1968, sent to National Board on JANUARY 15, 1969.

Report Of The Work Of Emphasis Committee

The work of the Emphasis Committee goes on whether or not meetings are being held. I sense a new ferment in the Southeast Conference that I believe can be traced to the Emphasis on "The Local Church in God's Mission." The process orientation is taking hold and giving thrust and purpose to many of our local churches, associations and to the Conference.

Your committee had a very successful two-day meeting in Langdale, Alabama, the first week of June 1968. Our agenda was open-ended and the Emphasis was on evaluation of last year's Conference meeting in Chattanooga.

The members of this committee have been active in several areas of work. We have assisted the moderators in developing the plan for realignment of the associations. We have also worked with the 1969 Ministers' Convocation Committee to provide further sensitivity training and group dynamics experience for our ministers.

We have encouraged the local churches and associations to call on us for assistance in presenting the Emphasis materials on "The Local Church in God's Mission." Several groups have called on your chairman, including the Lay Life and Work Councils of East Alabama and West Georgia and the Youth Fellowships of the same area.

We congratulate those churches and groups that have recognized the value in the Emphasis process. You have gained a new tool to help you in your efforts to fulfill God's Mission in your local church. We wish to remind you that the Emphasis process need not end in 1969. You have acquired a new style of planning and working that you can use from now on. As for those of you who have done nothing as yet, come on in! The water's fine!

—Allen B. Hollis Jr., Chairman

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SE Conference Budget 1969

INCOME

O. C. W. M. (from churches)	\$53,000
Bd. for Homeland Ministries:	
Div. of Church Extension	5,000
Div. of Church Extension	27,940
SEC Share-Per Capita Dues	500
Interest on Savings Cert.	450
Fees from Annual Meeting	300
Refunds	500
Southeast News Subscriptions	500
Misc. Budgeted Items	1,200
Additional Income	4,106
	\$93,496

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries	
—Staff	14,500
—Secretarial	7,000
	21,500
Annuities:	
—Conference Minister	1,800
—Minister of Christian Ed.	890
	2,070
Housing Allowance:	
—Conference Minister	2,100
—Minister of Christian Ed.	2,100
	4,200
Travel Allowance:	
—Conference Minister	2,600
—Minister of Christian Ed.	2,500
	5,100
Conference Claims:	
—O. C. W. M. to National	14,000
—Local Churches	8,500
—Churches from National	27,940
	50,440
Promotional Materials:	
—Materials	1,000
—Southeast News	1,200
	2,200
Other Expense:	
—Rent	1,800
—Utilities	700
—Insurance, Contents	225
—Ins., Employees' Benefits	400
—Social Security	336
—Postage, Stationery, Printing	1,000
—Directors' Fees	1,500
—New Equipment	600
—Miscellaneous	1,425
	7,986
	\$93,496

Report Of Commission On Evangelism

The Commission on Evangelism has not had any planned meetings this year but has been working with the Emphasis Committee on "The Local Church in God's Mission."

—W. Walter Hall, Chairman

Report Of Committee On Memorials

Our Lord at the beginning of his earthly ministry gave the call, "Follow me and I will make you fishers of men." At the close of this ministry, he gave the command, "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel." We honor those who heard the call and gave themselves in full submission to carry out the Lord's command. To those who followed, he gave the promise, "I go to prepare a place for you, and if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you unto myself."

These quotations give us the call, the mission, and the reward of the follower of Christ. Our thoughts at this time are turned especially to the ministers and to the wives of ministers who heard and answered the call, who gave their lives to that mission and to whom the Master has come and received unto Himself.

We do well to take a moment from our busy lives to remember these servants of Christ who served with us in His mission and who shared in our Christian love. We pay a tribute of respect to their memory and pray the blessing of God upon the work of their hands. "Their works do follow them."

The following are those to whom we pay tribute today:

Rev. Sidney K. Bunker, a missionary, ordained 1931, deceased September 22, 1968.

Rev. William J. Hill, Birmingham, Alabama, retired, ordained 1924, deceased October 2, 1968.

Rev. Nathaniel A. Long, Midland City, Alabama, retired, ordained 1919, deceased December 25, 1968.

Rev. James Nathaniel Rumpf, Phoenix City, Alabama, ordained 1938, deceased April 15, 1968.

Mrs. John T. Enwright, wife of the Rev. John T. Enwright, pastor of Plymouth Church, Charleston, S. C. Deceased September 29, 1968.

Let us stand for a moment of silence and for prayer in memory of these.

A. R. Van Cleave, Chairman

BOARD OF DIRECTORS . . .

(Cont. from Page 2)

Synod schools, in the camp and conference program, and in providing community service leadership in some of our churches.

Your Commission on Christian Education and Youth Work welcomes suggestions for making our ministry even more effective during the coming year.

—R. W. Hendrix, Chairman

LEADERSHIP IN THE LOCAL CHURCH

W. J. Andes

This will be the theme of the Third Annual Meeting of the Southeast Conference of the United Church of Christ when it convenes April 26 and 27, 1969, at Central Congregational Church (United Church of Christ), 2676 Clairmont Rd., N. E., Atlanta, Georgia. The Conference will face the problems and hoped-for solutions to leadership, both clergy and lay, in the churches of the Conference.

With three-fourths of the 127 churches in the Conference having less than 100 members, the problem of leadership is acute. If the ideal is to have a minister in each church, then how do you pay him a salary? As the cost of living continues to rise, so does the cost of ministerial leadership increase. This means that where a church does not gain many members in a year or two, that small church will have to find other types of leadership. Will the lay people assume the leadership role in the church? Are they trained for this responsibility?

The Conference will open with an address by the Secretary of the United Church, Dr. Joseph H. Evans, on the subject of "Leadership in the Church." Having had a broad experience in the local church and now a national officer in the United Church, he will set before us what leadership means in the Church of Jesus Christ. Following his address, small discussion groups will dive into their Bibles for Biblical perspectives in church leadership.

The afternoon session of Conference on Saturday will continue this exploration of church leadership. The Commission on Lay Life and Work and the Commission on Church and Ministry have already made some explorations on the subject, but they will seek for additional avenues to improve the leadership of all of us.

When Mr. Evans preaches the sermon on Sunday morning, he will be leading the congregation of Central Church and the Conference in a dedication of our very beings as God's servants.

REPORT ON LAY LIFE . . .

(Cont. from Page 4)

Mrs. H. D. Liechty, Arthur Wallace, Walter A. Graham, and William DeBlois. Co-opted members are Mrs. John J. Roemer, Family Thank Offering chairman, and Mrs. Edward M. Brown, Material Aids chairman.

W. R. Green Jr., Chairman

vants.

Business sessions on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning will seek to underwrite the budget of the Conference when \$68,000 is needed and only \$48,000 is given to Our Christian World Mission by the local churches. Realignment of the nine associations into a smaller number of associations will be presented, but no vote on this will be taken since this is a matter for the associations to decide. The Conference can give moral support at least.

Other national leaders present for the Conference will be Dr. Hartland Helmich of the Council for Lay Life and Work and Rev. Leon A. Dickinson Jr., of the Council for Church and Ministry. These two, along with W. R. Green and Rev. Joe A. French of the Conference commissions of similar nature, will be the reactor panel and will keep the Conference at work exploring the theme, "Leadership in the Local Church."

Rev. Frederick A. Meyer is pastor of Central Congregational Church. The church held the first service of worship in their new facilities on Clairmont Road less than a year ago. Since that time, the church has received 148 members into its fellowship. A new program of guidance and Christian Education is underway at the church, reaching out into the City of Atlanta and adjacent areas wherever need exists.

Promotion Of The Southeast News

Great concern was voiced at the fall meeting of the Board of Directors over the small number of subscriptions to the Southeast News. After discussing the matter, a committee was established to promote the Southeast News and to lower the subscription to \$1.00 per year.

Since that time there has been an approximate 250 increase in the subscriptions; however, the drive will be continued at the annual meeting and throughout the year. Every effort will be made to increase subscriptions further to at least 250 more.

I suggest that each church consider the Southeast News in their annual budget and have it sent to each home of the church.

—Freddie Powell, Chairman

Conference Speakers — Hartland H. Helmich

Hartland H. Helmich serves as secretary for the Council for Lay Life and Work, with offices in New York City.

Before assuming this position, Mr. Helmich was secretary for Campus Ministry of the Board for Homeland Ministries. Before this, he directed the Department of Campus Christian Life of the Evangelical and Reformed Church. He was a staff member of the Student Christian Movements in New York State and the middle Atlantic region, 1948-1950, and University pastor at the University of Pennsylvania for CC and E & R churches, 1950-1952.

Born in St. Charles, Missouri, Mr. Helmich graduated from Central College, Fayette, Missouri, in 1945, and from Eden Theological Seminary, Webster Groves, Missouri, in 1948.

He and his wife have five children.

* * * *

Rev. Dr. Joseph H. Evans

Serving as secretary of the United Church of Christ, with offices in New York, Mr. Evans holds the second highest elective office in the denomination.

Dr. Evans was minister of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Chicago, 1953-1967. He served two terms as president of the United Church, Illinois Conference.

Long a leader in his denomination, Dr. Evans is former vice-president of the Board of Directors of the Congregational Christian Board of Home Missions and a member of the Board of Directors of the denomination's Council for Christian Social Action. He is a member of the board of directors of LeMoyné College, Memphis, Tennessee.

Born in Kalamazoo, Mich., Dr. Evans graduated from Western Michigan University, and from Yale Divinity School. He received the honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters from Cedar Crest College, Allentown, Pa., in 1968.

Dr. Evans is married and he and his wife have three daughters.

* * * *

Rev. Leon A. Dickinson Jr.

Rev. Leon A. Dickinson Jr. serves as Chaplains Secretary — Religion and Health for the Council for Church and Ministry, with offices in New York. Mr. Dickinson has been in the chaplaincy for a number of years, having served both overseas and at home.



Left to Right: Kathy Young, Theresa Edwards, Carmen Bassler, Paula Caruthers, Fred Dresch Jr., Gay Johnston, Mike Granish, Jane Sams, Kevin Cox, Debbie Price.

Huntsville United Church Host To SEC Youth

"Youth Involved in Church and World" was the theme upon which discussion and action were based at the 1969 SEC YOUTH meeting held at the United Church of Huntsville, Alabama.

Lively discussion began during the folk singing when some youth "interrupted" by raising questions as to what the 175 young people and adults were doing at this meeting. Small groups, most of which were led by young people, pursued the "why" of youth ministry. On this occasion, most of the adults met in two groups. Even these were led by young people.

The motion picture "Phoebe" provided the springboard for the afternoon discussion groups which concerned themselves with problems of peer relationships, the generation gap, understanding ourselves, relating to world needs, and the church's task in all of these problems. Several groups utilized role playing to help work through their concerns.

A high school drama group from Huntsville helped us "unwind" with their hilarious presentation of "The Star Spangled Girl" at the end of the afternoon.

On Saturday night, the Jolly Inn was the setting for a delicious banquet, followed by a psychedelic lighted dance. Noise, creative lighting effects, and motion were the order of the evening.

Fred Dresch Jr., retiring president, presided over the general business session held on Sunday morning. After

reports from the officers and the committees, the following officers were elected and installed: president, Gay Johnston, Huntsville; vice-president, Mike Granish, Central, Atlanta; recording secretary, Paula Caruthers, First, Atlanta; corresponding secretary, Carmen Bassler, First, Nashville; treasurer, Jane Sams, Pilgrim, Chattanooga; members-at-large: Theresa Edwards, Howard, Nashville; Debbie Price, Garden City; Kevin Cox, Pilgrim, Chattanooga.

The closing worship service utilized contemporary music, prayers, and other readings, and Clarence Jordan's modern version of Jesus' parable of "The Good Samaritan." An offering of \$89.07 was received for One Great Hour of Sharing.

Following adjournment, the retiring and newly elected officers met briefly to set the date for a planning meeting. It will be held in Atlanta, Georgia, April 26 and 27, 1969.

Confirmation Supper

A special Confirmation Supper for members of the Confirmation Class at Pilgrim Congregational Church, Birmingham, was held at the church on March 28. Supper was served to the confirmands, as well as their parents and grandparents.

Speaker for the occasion was Dr. William J. Andes, Conference Minister. Mrs. Andes was also a guest.

The Message Of Pentecost - 1969

"For the first time in history we see the oneness of mankind as an inescapable mandate," the presidents of the World Council of Churches declare in their 1969 Pentecost message.

"Our common task is to ensure that all men share in the proper use of the world's resources," the presidents assert. "We urge all congregations and all Christians to accept joyfully this responsibility as a test of their obedience to God."

The annual message will be read in many languages throughout the world by the Council's 235-member churches. Protestants, Anglicans, and Old Catholics will celebrate the Day of Pentecost on Sunday, May 25. Orthodox churches will celebrate on June 1.

Pentecost Sunday comes seven weeks (50 days) after Easter. Orthodox churches use a different calendar to figure their church year. Consequently, they usually celebrate Easter and Pentecost a week or more later than Western churches. Some years the dates coincide.

"We believe that the Spirit is at work in the world as well as in the church," the World Council presidents say in their 1969 message. "He corrects and directs the energies of people toward a continuous renewal of all our thinking and all our communities; He gives voice to the voiceless and teaches silence to the noisy; He instills in men the longing for God and for the revelation of His Son."

The message also calls on Christians to contribute to "the search for proper structures on the international and national level." "We must find ways to contribute sacrificially to funds for development, both as churches and as individuals," the presidents urge.

The Day of Pentecost marks the event described in the second chapter of the Book of Acts when the Holy Spirit promised by Jesus descended on a small group of followers gathered to celebrate the ancient Jewish Pentecost festival. According to the Book of Acts, 3,000 converts were won that day by the preaching of Peter.

The beginning of the Christian Church is sometimes dated from that event. Pentecost is now observed by many churches as a day to stress the unity and mission of the church.

The Welfare Freeze

Does the phrase "welfare freeze" ring a bell? The welfare freeze is a CRISIS which should be met BEFORE summer arrives.

Part of an act passed in 1967 by the United States Congress, the welfare freeze originally stated that on March 1, 1968, the amount of welfare money a family gets each month will be cut. These provisions were delayed from March 1, 1968 to July 1, 1969. As stated in the Atlanta Constitution on March 15, 1969, "The freeze is aimed at illegitimate children, but also hits children with a parent in prison or mental hospital.

For example, in Georgia alone, 30,000 children on the rolls of Aid for Dependent Children will be affected. Mr. Delaney, an administrator of a local welfare office, wrote in the Atlanta Journal on January 8, 1969, "A lot of parents would be forced to abandon their children. Then the parents would wind up in court for child neglect, the court would give us custody of the children, and we would have to place them in foster care or institutions."

Cost to the county in foster homes would be greater than if the county put up the money to keep them in their own homes, he adds. This issue points out the fact that the welfare system badly needs revising!

As an individual you can do many things. First, find out what your state has done. If the state legislature has not passed a bill that supplements the amount of money that is cut by the welfare freeze, you should write to your representatives in the legislature. You can call your local welfare office to learn what has been done in your state. Writing to your Senators and Representatives in the U. S. Congress to repeal or delay the act can help.

In addressing the letter to a Senator, write the name of the Senator, the Senate Office Building, Washington, D. C. 20515. You can also write to the Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, Mr. Robert Finch.

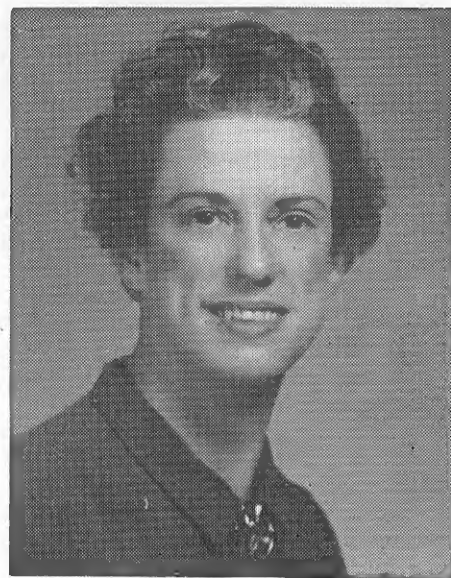
For those persons in the various states covered by the Southeast Conference who care enough about children to write their Senators, they are listed as follows:

ALABAMA — Lister Hill and John Sparkman; FLORIDA — Spessard L.

SOME CONFERENCE PERSONALITIES



FREDERICK A. MEYER
Host Pastor



THE REV. MISS EMILIE PITCOCK
Minister of Christian Education



MISS DORA BRACKIN
Recording Secretary



H. HAROLD THOMAS
Treasurer

Holland and George A. Smathers; GEORGIA — Richard B. Russell and Herman E. Talmadge; KENTUCKY — John S. Cooper; MISSISSIPPI — James O. Eastman and John Stennis; TENNESSEE — Howard H. Baker Jr. and Albert Gore; SOUTH CAROLINA — Ernest F. Hollings and Strom Thurmond.

—Maria Brown

New A-V Catalog Available

The 1969-70 Catalog of Audio-Visuals has been prepared and is now available to those who request it.

Because several older aids have been discarded and other new materials have been added, our people are urged to discard earlier catalogs and rely solely on the new one. Pick up your copy at the Annual Meeting, or write for it: Southeast Conference, P. O. Box 29883, Atlanta, Ga. 30329.

Be A Volunteer

A new summer service opportunity for Senior High volunteers is being a Program Aide at Junior and Junior High camps and conferences. President Nixon calls the volunteers "the great legions of the concerned and committed."

Who may be involved as Program Aides? High school youth of either sex, sixteen years of age or older, who apply and are accepted by the Camp and Conference Committee.

What is it to be a Program Aide?

—Relating to a 5th or 6th grader at Junior Camp, or to a 7th, 8th, or 9th grader at Junior High Camp to understand him and to help him.

—Working alongside a counselor in good team leadership for camp or conference program activities.

—Extending your hand into a world where younger people reach toward you and want to know you.

—Finding that your life can be more meaningful as you come to know Jesus Christ and what he taught.

—Having time to be by yourself to discover, reflect, and wonder about God's purpose for your life.

—Being a steward for 9 or 10 days of your time, and some travel expense. You will receive orientation and training before camp with no cost to you. You will spend a week at camp, plus an extra day and night preceding camper arrival, where you will pay no camp fee but will need to arrange your transportation.

—Journeying into the adult world of greater responsibility and freedom.

Inquire about this opportunity for service as a volunteer in our contemporary world. Write or call Mrs. Carl N. Sanford, Southeast Conference, P. O. Box 29883, Atlanta, Georgia 30329.

—Trudi Sanford,

Volunteer Coordinator,
Camps and Conferences

Chaplain H. C. Henderson

Chaplain Harold C. Henderson, Captain in the USAF, Box 504, 40th Cmbt Spt Sq (USAFE), APO NY 09293, has transferred his ministerial standing from the Central Alabama Association in the Southeast Conference, to the Northwest Ohio Association of the Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ. This is his home conference. We in the Southeast Conference are appreciative of the ministry he had for several years among us.

Ministers' Family Protection Plan

The Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ have recently announced an excellent Family Protection Plan incorporating both life insurance and disability insurance for ministers.

The life insurance portion provides for 200 per cent to 20 per cent of the annual salary base, depending on the age of the minister. It also includes \$1,000 on spouses of active ministers.

Under disability insurance, it will pay the difference between Social Security and 50 per cent of salary basis, with a minimum of \$50 per month to a maximum of \$800 per month. It also guarantees continued payment of dues into the Pension Fund during disability.

The cost is one per cent of "salary base." Each church is urged to pay the full premium for its ministers. This plan is available to all full-time ministers who are active members of the Pension Funds. All ministers have received detailed information from the New York office, and early response is encouraged. The plan will be in effect only when 75 per cent of the eligible ministers of the Conference respond.

It is the recommendation of the Conference that officers of the church study this matter immediately with their ministers so enrollment can take place.

Soddy Church Merges With Pilgrim, Chattanooga

Soddy Congregational Church has ceased to exist, but its members have joined Pilgrim Congregational Church, Chattanooga, Tennessee.

On March 16, 1969, following the morning worship service, the Soddy members — and others who have joined Pilgrim Church since April 1 last year — were honored at a reception.

The Soddy Church was forced to close because of a declining membership and difficulty in finding ministers. The Soddy congregation, numbering 40 persons, joined Pilgrim Church on February 26.

Rev. Arnold Slater serves as the pastor of Pilgrim Church, Chattanooga.

The Soddy Church was organized in 1863, by a group of Welsh coal miners.

Report Of Commission On Our Christian World Mission

The Commission on Our Christian World Mission is deeply concerned about the financial support of the Southeast Conference and met several times during the year, seeking to define the problems and proposed solutions.

The Commission set the goals for the churches at a level which would enable the conference to continue its existing functions and to engage in the new ministries to which God is calling the United Church in our area.

The Commission urges the members of the churches to re-think their current giving in the light of a challenging Christian motivation for giving. It is aware that our churches cannot meet the needs of the day or share in the mission that God is giving us unless we develop a more meaningful program of financial stewardship.

Therefore, the Commission on Our Christian World Mission encourages the members of the churches to make their giving consistent with what God has done for them, and with what God is demanding of the Southeast Conference.

— Donald S. Daughtry, Crm.

The Conference will dramatize the needed financial support needed in OCWM giving by a dramatic presentation on Saturday night, April 26, entitled "The House that Jack Built." Members of the Atlanta churches will produce this presentation under the direction of Donald Daughtry and Karlton C. Johnson.

Report Of The Personnel Committee

The primary responsibility of this committee was to secure a third staff member for the Southeast Conference.

Following our meeting December 3, 1969, held in the Conference Office, the committee agreed that due to the financial situation we would recommend to the Board of Directors that for the immediate present we will not pursue this matter. The Board of Directors received and concurred with this report.

The new chairman of this committee is Homer C. McEwen.

—Arnold Slater, Chairman

OUR CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION – BASIC SUPPORT ONLY

ALABAMA	1968	1968	Roanoke, Bethany	250.00	50.00	Gaillard, Pleasant Hill	47.00	0
	OCWM	OCWM	Roanoke, First	350.00	300.00	Hampton, County Line	100.00	0
	Goals	Giving	Roanoke, Forest Home	150.00	50.00	LaGrange, Hillside	300.00	300.00*
Alex City, Antioch	10.00	0	Roanoke, Lowell	500.00	500.00*	LaGrange, United	1,320.00	833.05
Alex City, Hunt Mem.	50.00	0	Roanoke, Mt. Zion	150.00	0	Macon, First	110.00	45.00
Alpine, King's Chapel	85.00	30.00	Roanoke, New Hope	250.00	250.00*	Meansville, First	50.00	0
Andalusia, Antioch	87.00	96.11*	Roanoke, Rock Spring	50.00	0	McIntosh, Midway	65.00	0
Andalusia, First	100.00	100.00*	Roanoke, Rock Stand	250.00	130.00	Pearson, Union Hill	265.00	0
Arley, Robertson's Chapel	35.00	20.00	Selma, First	78.00	23.00	Pine Mountain, Oak Grove	650.00	830.00*
Athens, Trinity	150.00	0	Seman, Community	50.00	0	Richland, First	33.00	50.00*
Birmingham, First	1,142.00	1,380.43	Shawmut, Todd	400.00	306.00	Richland, Providence Chapel	50.00	0
Birmingham, Pilgrim	1,804.00	694.20	Steele, Mt. Lebanon	52.00	48.00	Savannah, First	390.00	432.82*
Birmingham, St. John's	1,071.00	273.70	Talladega, United	72.00	100.00*	Thomasville, Bethany	50.00	61.00*
Brantley, Indian Creek	50.00	0	Tallassee, Mt. Olive	125.00	125.00*	Tifton, Vanceville	100.00	0
Brantley, Liberty	50.00	0	Town Creek, Old Liberty	75.00	0	Waycross, Wms. Chapel	260.00	270.00*
Caddo, CC	163.00	200.00*	Wadley, Beulah	100.00	0	West Point, Bethel	100.00	110.00*
Clio, New Hope	130.00	200.00*	Wadley, Christian	420.00	420.00*	Woodbury, Jones Chapel	39.00	0
Cullman, St. John's	1,039.00	1,012.24	Wadley, Corinth	250.00	200.00			
Dadeville, Elder	300.00	300.00*	Wedowee, Caver's Grove	100.00	0	KENTUCKY		
E. Tallassee, CC	550.00	450.00	Wedowee, Noon Day	250.00	75.00	Evarts, First	500.00	180.00
Eclectic, Watson's Chapel	50.00	0	Wetumpka, Balm of Gilead	53.00	0	Stearns, Community (Inactive)	50.00	0
Five Points, State Line	100.00	0	FLORIDA			MISSISSIPPI		
Garden City, Cong.	240.00	240.00*	Baker, Good Hope	100.00	100.00*	Tougaloo, Union	252.00	175.00
Hackleberg, Fairview	100.00	0	Baker, Pyron's Chapel	50.00	0			
Haleyville, Union Grove	100.00	50.00	Bonifay, New Effort	100.00	0	SOUTH CAROLINA		
Hanceville, Mt. Grove	100.00	40.00	GEORGIA			Charleston, Circular	1,125.00	303.75
Headland, Blackwood	582.00	383.62	Ambrose, Christian	13.00	20.00*	Charleston, Plymouth	326.00	300.00
Houston, Liberty Hill	50.00	0	Atlanta, Carroll Hghts.	25.00	0	TENNESSEE		
Huntsville, United	2,107.00	1,110.65	Atlanta, Center	130.00	200.00*	Belvidere, United	2,518.00	1,000.00
LaFayette, Pleasant Grove	250.00	250.00*	(Inactive)			Chattanooga, First	306.00	47.00
Lanett, CC	4,000.00	4,359.83*	Atlanta, Central	5,094.00	6,500.00*	Chattanooga, Pilgrim	5,656.00	5,000.00
Lanett, Huguley	150.00	110.00	Atlanta, First	4,200.00	4,200.00*	Crossville, First	847.00	315.00
Langdale, CC	3,000.00	2,296.74	Atlanta, Rush Memorial	400.00	300.00	Daisy, Cong.	300.00	0
Lineville, New Harmony	60.00	60.00*	Barnesville, Fredonia	483.00	300.00	Deer Lodge, Cong.	255.00	68.22
Marion, First	80.00	75.00	Baxley, Friendship	50.00	0	Glen Mary, Cong.	109.00	78.00
Midland City, Chr. Hill	33.00	45.20*	Beachton, Evergreen	130.00	100.00	Knoxville, First	270.00	270.00*
Montgomery, First	484.00	862.00*	Bowman, Liberty	56.00	28.55	Nashville, Brookmeade	900.00	500.00
Montgomery, United	811.00	0	Bonanza, United	0	39.65	Nashville, First E & R	2,474.00	2,725.00*
Moulton, Jones Chapel	75.00	0	Braselton, Macedonia	60.00	60.00*	Nashville, Fisk Union	300.00	0
Mountain Creek, Union	50.00	0	Bristol, Antioch	50.00	0	Nashville, Howard	423.00	211.50
Phenix City, First	400.00	300.00	Buford, Duncan's Creek	100.00	0	Pleasant Hill, Com.	952.00	950.00
Phenix City, Russell Woods	100.00	100.00*	Columbus, First	390.00	390.00*	Robbins, Barton Chapel	160.00	140.00
Pisgah	50.00	50.00*	Columbus, United	65.00	50.00	Soddy, First (Inactive)	260.00	200.00
Roanoke, Antioch	250.00	250.00*	Crest, Hebron	25.00	0	Sweetwater, First	163.00	168.00*
			Demorest, Federated	403.00	300.00	OTHER		1,124.24

*Denotes those churches which met, or exceeded, their OCWM Goal for 1968.

TOTALS	58,287.00	47,742.50
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Program Of The Third Annual Meeting
Southeast Conference Of The United Church Of Christ
CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
2676 Clairmont Road, N. E., Atlanta, Georgia
APRIL 26-27, 1969
THEME: "LEADERSHIP IN THE LOCAL CHURCH"

SATURDAY, APRIL 26, 1969:

9:00 A. M.—Registration

- 10:00 —Hymn, "Our God Our Help In Ages Past" No. 1
—Prayer — Millard Sims, Pastor, Duncan's Creek Church, Dacula, Ga.
—Call to Order — Olin E. Sheppard, Moderator
—Welcome — Frederick A. Meyer, Pastor of Central Church, Atlanta
—Adoption of Proposed Program
—Minutes of 1968 Annual Meeting and of Board of Directors —
Miss Dora C. Brackin, Secretary
—Recognition of Visitors and Fraternal Delegates
—Report of the Moderator — Olin E. Sheppard
—Presentation of Reports —

Christian Education and Youth — Robert W. Hendrix
Church and Ministry — Joe A. French
Southern Union College, Inc. — W. J. Andes
Evangelism — W. Walter Hall
Church Extension — Freddie Powell
Christian Social Action — Andrew L. Cooper
Institutions and Ministries — Arnold Slater
Lay Life and Work — W. R. Green
Our Christian World Mission — Donald S. Daughtry
Treasurer — H. Harold Thomas

1969 Budget — H. Paul Beaird
1968-69 Emphasis — Allen B. Hollis Jr.
Nominating Committee — Mrs. Edward M. Brown
Memorial Committee — A. R. Van Cleave

SOUTHEAST NEWS and UNITED CHURCH HERALD —
Freddie Powell and Mrs. Thomas Bender
Personnel Committee — Arnold Slater
Resolutions Committee — David Beebe
Place Committee — John L. Martin

- 11:00 —Address: "Leadership in the Local Church" — Dr. Joseph H. Evans,
Secretary, United Church of Christ
Reactor Panel: Hartland Helmich, Council for Lay Life and Work
W. R. Green, Commission for Lay Life and Work
Leon A. Dickinson, Council for Church and Ministry
Joe A. French, Commission for Church and Ministry
Discussion Groups: "Biblical Perspectives in Church Leadership"

12:30 Lunch

SATURDAY AFTERNOON:

- 1:30 P. M.—Call to Order
Prayer — George Fidler, Pastor, Cullman, Alabama
Reactor Panel and Discussion Groups —
"Identifying Problems of Leadership in Our Churches"
3:00 —Business Session
3:30 —Reactor Panel and Discussion Groups —
"Solving Problems of Leadership in Our Churches"

SATURDAY EVENING:

- 6:00 P. M.—Dinner, Fellowship Hall — Harold L. Johnson, Presiding
8:00 —Presentation — "The House That Jack Built"

SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 27, 1969:

- 9:00 A. M.—Call to Order
Report of Credentials Committee
Business Session
11:00 —Service of Worship — Joseph H. Evans, Preacher
12:00 Noon —Conference Adjourns

At the 11:00 o'clock hour, Leon Dickinson will preach at First Congregational Church, corner Courtland and Houston Streets, Atlanta; Hartland Helmich will preach at Rush Memorial Congregational Church, 150 Chestnut Street, S. W., Atlanta.